

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. The specification has been amended at line 27 on page 4 to line 18 on page 5 to conform this portion of the specification to some of the claim amendments. Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-26 are currently pending in the present application. Independent claims 1 and 18 have been amended. New claim 26 has been added.

Although the undersigned disagrees with all of the various rejections raised in the Official Action, and reserves the right to pursue claims of the same or similar scope in this or another application, in order to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended to adopt the subject matter indicated as being allowable. Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended, among other things, to include the subject matter of dependent claims 4 and 7. Independent claim 18 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 7. New independent claim 26 has been added to include the subject matter of claim 1, claim 4 and claim 11.

Accordingly, the pending rejections are now moot and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response or the application in general, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (540) 361-1863.

Respectfully submitted,

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